

plus to show demoralization but it is certain that he will not strike until he is entirely ready.

Allies Now Are Masters.
The Allies now have almost a straight line across what was the mouth of the pocket, which adds immensely to the strength of their new position. They are now complete masters of the situation, favorably located for an additional advance or for holding where they are. To add to their strength they have succeeded, despite the rapidity of their forward drive, in bringing up all but their heaviest guns and to-day have the rear of the retreating Germans under their fire.

ALL BRIDGES CUT OR BURNED BY ENEMY
Germans Set Fire to Everything as They Retreat.

ON THE FRONT IN FRANCE, Aug. 3.—The allied advance along the Soissons-Rheims front continued throughout last night and this morning. The banks of the Aisne have been reached along the front from Pommiers, west of Soissons, to Venizy, on the east of that town. Further east the Allies have reached the district of Serches, Courcelles and Cerny. Cavalry patrols have arrived at the River Vesle in the vicinity of Champagne and Jochery, thus cutting all the bridges cut or burned by the Germans. Just to the west of Rheims the Allies have reached or are approaching Tincourt, Thillois, Gueux and Rosnay, all lying in the neighborhood of the main road from Rouen to Rheims. Fires are illuminating the skies everywhere, the enemy having set fire to everything as he retreats. More than forty conflagrations were counted during the course of the night.

ENEMY MAY STAND ON CHEMIN DES DAMES

Would Restore the Position as It Stood in 1914.

PARIS, Aug. 3.—The latest news from the Soissons-Rheims front shows that the Entente allied victory is growing swiftly in magnitude. It is significant that Paris refrains from exultation, but watches with feverish interest for every scrap of news of the progress of the program of events already announced of the conservative official communications. Particular significance is attributed by commentators to the crumbling of the right pivot of the German positions in the region of Soissons which opens up great possibilities and provokes speculation as to where the Germans will be able to regroup their forces. The comment generally dwells on the fact that this is a real Entente victory, with French and Scottish forces under Gen. Mangin, with American forces under Gen. Degoutte and with English and French troops under Gen. Berthelot.

Losses Have Been Very Heavy.

Military critics now look for the retirement of the German Crown Prince to the Chemin des Dames, where he probably will endeavor to reestablish his line. There has not been a great deal of action. He evidently foresees that his positions were untenable. The German losses have been very heavy. They are retreating north of the Vesle with great precipitation. The German right wing on the north bank of the Aisne is in a dangerous situation, and it is expected that they will be unable to hold their present positions. Burning villages in the area north of the Vesle River, between Muzon and St. Thierry, indicate that a further withdrawal of the German forces is intended. Fourteen large fires have been observed. The important center of Fismes was in flames this morning, and there were great conflagrations in two villages to the northwest of that town.

Retreat Is Very Rapid.

The retirement of the forces of the German Crown Prince now appears to be of a very rapid character. There has not been a great deal of fighting in the last twenty-four hours, certainly not in the area southeast of Soissons, and it is unlikely that any large captures of prisoners will be reported. Eastward of Rheims French forces have made an important recovery of ground near St. Hilaire. Many prisoners were taken by the French at Soissons, which was occupied at 5 o'clock Friday afternoon, one hour after the Germans had been driven from the suburbs. Those of the German line not captured escaped by fleeing northward. It seems the enemy did not expect to be chased from Soissons. There were no indications that preparations had been made for retirement and no fires were discovered anywhere.

Cavalry and Tanks Advance.

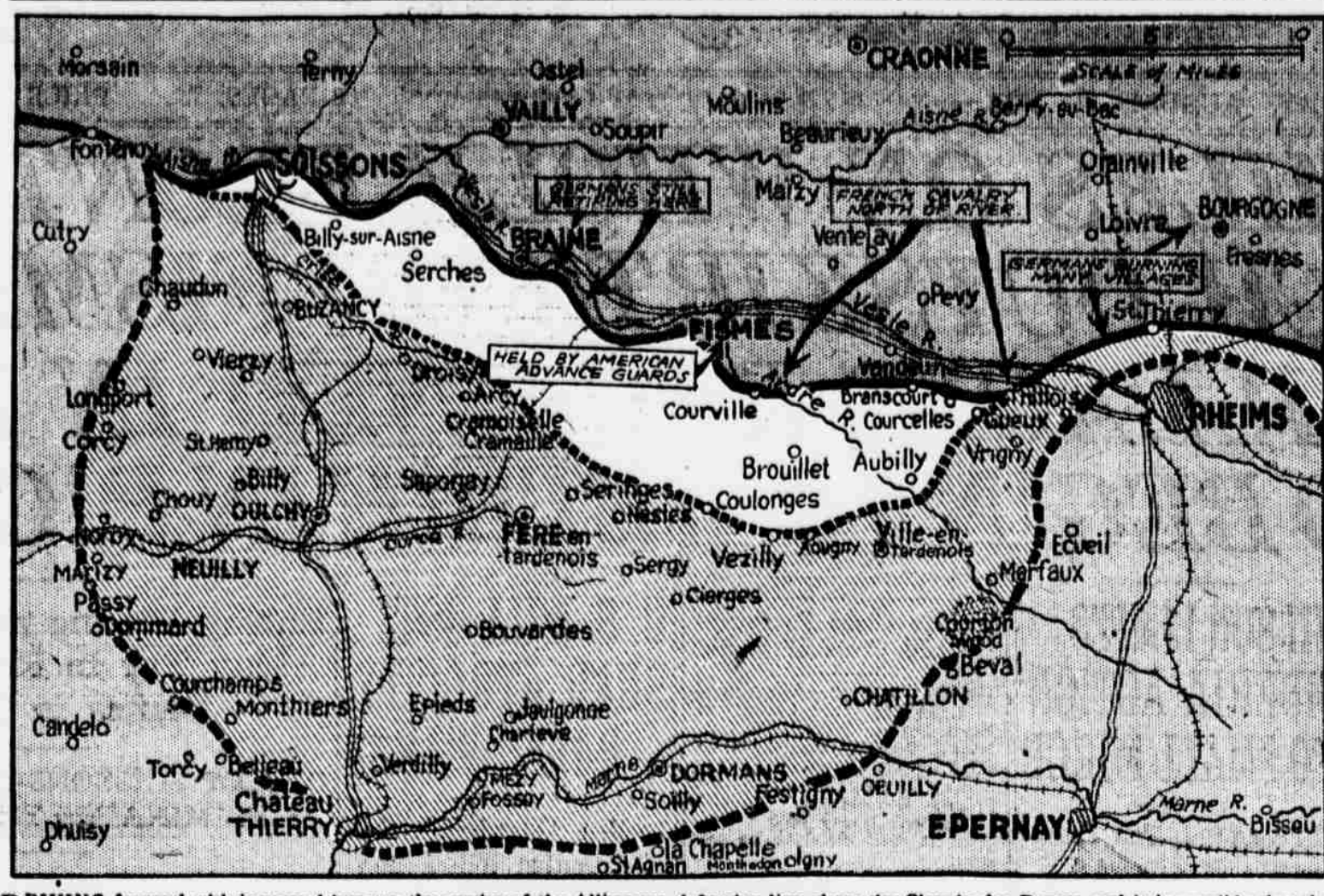
French cavalry and tanks kept in close pursuit of the enemy and inflicted heavy losses. What the consequences of the victory will be cannot yet be gauged, but that it will be far-reaching is beyond question. The enemy cannot hold the Vesle line, but must recross the Aisne, since by the capture of Soissons the Allies are able to debouch on both sides of the river and take him in the rear. The German retreat began Friday morning after the fall of the Soissons line brought about by the storming of the Hartennes plateau by the troops of Gen. Mangin the night before. Gen. Berthelot, on the east, entered Ville-en-Tardenois and advanced on both sides of the Aisne Valley.

How the Allies Closed In.

The Americans, in the center, marched toward the Vesle down the Orillon Valley, while from Hartennes the French debouched into the Crise Valley, taking in the rear the previously impregnable redoubt of Buzancy. Little by little the movement quickened. The Dorman-Rheims road was left, three miles behind and Guiz, Polly, Vesilly, Goussancourt and Coulouges were passed at a bound. The forest of Neules was cleared out and Dole Wood entered. Arcy Wood was but a mouthful. On the west the French carried on to Maest-et-Violaine, Chazotte and Septmonts. By mid-afternoon the Allies were established solidly on the heights on both sides of the Crise, that is to say south and southeast of Soissons. The fall of Soissons, which the Germans were obliged to evacuate, had decided the fate of the battle. It was the pivot of the whole German line. Even admitting that the German left could cling to the narrow plain between the Vesle and the Aisne, the right wing could not have remained in the air as its only supports are the Soissons plateau and the nearest spur of the famous Chemin des Dames.

Thus, it is held here, the situation will revert to where it was at the end of September, 1914.

Where the Allies Are Clearing the Marne Salient of the Last Germans



DRIVING forward with increased impetus the armies of the Allies are fast clearing the Marne salient of the last remaining Germans and the great pocket in which more than a million men have been fighting desperately for several weeks has been cut off—it is no longer a pocket but merely a slight dent in a long line which, according to all indications, will be eliminated in a day or two.

The Germans in their flight have already passed north of the Aisne, indicating that they regard a stand on the line of the Vesle as hopeless, and they are burning many villages in that region. They are not expected now to attempt a permanent stand until they reach the old

BIG GUNS BALK GERMAN LOOTING

Shells Tear Up Track and Prevent Movement of Trains at Saponay.

By the Associated Press.
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 3.—Before evacuating Saponay the Germans desperately endeavored to remove several locomotives and railway cars, which finally they were compelled to leave behind. The French and American heavy guns previously had severed the railway running north from Saponay, and the Germans were unable to make trains owing to the continued shelling. Saponay and the district extending to Fere-en-Tardenois form an important railway center of which the Germans made much use until the allied guns cut the line. When the French entered Saponay on Friday they found two locomotives which the Germans had attempted to destroy when they discovered that the railroad had been severed, and the railroad yards had been damaged by German explosives. Friday was the first day Fere-en-Tardenois was not under the German artillery since the Germans evacuated the village. The French and American shells have started to restore the shell swept village. A group of American engineers under a Lieutenant from North Carolina to-day worked side by side with French engineers repairing the roads and streets, and other detachments were busy burying the German dead.

Germans Wrecked Every House.

Previous to evacuating Fere-en-Tardenois the Germans destroyed virtually everything which could be made use of as a storehouse. There was not a single house which had not been shelled or dynamited. Most of the stone houses are mere ruins with gaping holes in the roofs and sides. Some houses were totally demolished and the church stands with many large holes in the roof and sides. Virtually the only thing in Fere-en-Tardenois that is nearly intact are the weather cock on the church steeple and the cobblestones of the streets.

To Toss in the Village Square were Twisted as if by a Cyclone by the Farwell Shells of the Germans.

A large sign in German at the entrance to the village of Fere-en-Tardenois had been torn down. Down the street a German sign stretched across the road way reads: "Captured arms and loot must be stored here." The sign bears a hand pointing to where a house once stood. The result of dynamite or some other explosive used by the retreating Germans.

From Fere-en-Tardenois a valley stretches northwest to Saponay and beyond, and this valley has been the scene of a bitter battle.

At one place near Saponay, at a crossroads, lay five saddled horses, apparently killed by the same shell which killed two of the French dead Germans, just as they fell from their saddles. The roadways are littered with ammunition, weapons and dead horses, some of them with their drivers, as they fell when struck by the big shells of the Franco-American Allies. Many of the wheat fields are partly harvested, with the wheat stacked, the Germans having reaped what the French peasant had planted. Here and there dots can be seen from the roadway, indicating where some German dropped. At one place a German killed by shrapnel had fallen headfirst into a shell hole filled by a downpour of rain. It was into this valley of death that the French infantry came Friday morning as the Germans withdrew through the valley north of Saponay. The French and American shells followed the Germans as they went. From the hill to the west and northwest of Saponay the French came from woods in a rainstorm from clouds so low that the troops carried on to Maest-et-Violaine, Chazotte and Septmonts. By mid-afternoon the Allies were established solidly on the heights on both sides of the Crise, that is to say south and southeast of Soissons.

The fall of Soissons, which the Germans were obliged to evacuate, had decided the fate of the battle. It was the pivot of the whole German line. Even admitting that the German left could cling to the narrow plain between the Vesle and the Aisne, the right wing could not have remained in the air as its only supports are the Soissons plateau and the nearest spur of the famous Chemin des Dames.

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS.

LONDON, Aug. 3.—Following are the official reports on the fighting in France and Flanders:

FRENCH (NIGHT).—During the day our troops, driving back the enemy rear guards, continued their victorious march on a front of about fifty kilometers in the direction of the Vesle River.

On our left our line extends along the southern banks of the Aisne and the Vesle, from Soissons as far as Fismes, the outskirts of which the Americans hold.

East of Fismes we have reached a general line north of Courville, Brancourt, Courcelles and Champigny.

Our cavalry patrols are operating along the railroad between Soissons and Rheims.

Our progress at certain points since yesterday exceeds ten kilometers. More than fifty villages have been delivered on this day alone.

FRENCH (DAY).—During the night the French troops continued their advance toward the Vesle. On the left the French reached the German positions and Venizy.

GERMAN (DAY).—Southwest of Ypres we beat off a strong British partial attack yesterday morning.

The great successes of the army of Gen. von Boehn in the battle of August 1 contributed to the complete success of the movements carried out yesterday.

The enemy's artillery fire was directed on our old fighting zone till early morning, and at isolated points even up to 11 A. M. His infantry and cavalry detachments only followed hesitatingly and cautiously our forefired troops, who were slowly withdrawing.

We inflicted considerable losses on the enemy in minor engagements.

In Champagne we captured about 100 prisoners in successful combats northwest of Souain.

BRITISH (NIGHT).—The progress made by our patrols in the Albert sector has been continued, and the greater part of the ground previously held by the enemy west of the Ancre River is now in our possession. Our troops followed closely upon the enemy in his withdrawal, indications of which had previously been observed, and a number of his dead have been found in his abandoned trenches.

Early this morning strong hostile raiding parties, after an artillery and trench mortar bombardment, attacked our line southeast of Hebuterne, but were completely repulsed. Another hostile raiding party was dispersed by machine gun fire this morning east of Robecq.

The hostile artillery has shown increased activity in the Kemmel sector.

BRITISH (DAY).—A raid attempted by the enemy yesterday morning in the neighborhood of Feuchy (near Arras) was repulsed with loss.

The hostile artillery has been active at different points between Bethune and Baillieu.

HINDENBURG ADMITS THAT HE IS ALIVE

But Has to Advertise to Get Folks to Believe It.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and the Public Ledger.
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PARIS, Aug. 3.—Rumors of the death of Field Marshal von Hindenburg continue to circulate not alone in neutral and allied countries, but even in Germany, according to the Berliner Tag, which understands that Von Hindenburg has had to resort to the scheme of having messages of condolence sent by him made public to give proof of his existence. The Tag says:

"Certain disquieting rumors have been circulated in our capital for some time, especially in the hotels. Even on the public highways one has been hearing for several weeks all sorts of mad tales concerning the person of our venerable Field Marshal von Hindenburg. Even persons of good sense have permitted themselves to be misled by this groundless information."

"It has therefore become our duty to put an end to these wild stories. If these people would only read the news-

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HEROISM IN ALL RANKS

Commanding General Uses Shell Hole at Front to Direct Gallant Forces.

By RAYMOND G. CARROLL.
Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and the Public Ledger.
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WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 3.—This is an account of a continuous sixty-four hour "following up" fight of forces from a large American unit, which lasted from daybreak of July 24 until dusk of July 28. It forms an important chapter in the record of the Franco-American advance southwest of the Marne River. They are always in a wide front, with a depth of eight kilometers. Its progress incorporated the capture of the towns of Epiedes and Courpail and a plunge in the Forêt de Fere as far as Croix Rouge Farm.

Simultaneously forces moving in parallel lines at the left reached the town of Beaurieu. At the same time Americans swept into Forêt de Fere, while forces on the right, further east, were operating in the general direction of the towns of Serzy, Clergues and Ronchieres. I write specifically of the center of this general attack, where Capt. W. R. Dunlap of Pittsburgh and Lucius M. Phelps of Oil City, Pa., distinguished themselves as to be recommended for immediate advancement to the rank of Major. Here our front consisted of two detachments, with a third detachment close in reserve and with an offensive artillery curtain of fire preceding our infantry.

The moving barrage advanced at the same rate of speed as the infantry, but finding that our soldiers were constantly treading upon the heels of the barrage the high command early on July 26 decided to call off the barrage, which had been progressing fifty yards every two and a half minutes.

Bombing Into Machine Gun Nests.

The effect upon the troops was to release them under the protection of their own trench mortars and the machine guns going forward with the velocity of a piston rod. Now and again rushing soldiers connected with rear echelons by field telephones would bump against a circle of enemy machine gun nests, whereupon a halt was made, while the artillery barrage called for would descend upon the enemy with destructive violence.

Then again the artillery would cease firing and the infantry units of attack would resume the pursuit, closing upon the retreating enemy, our boys passing through wheatfields, vineyards and engulfing towns, where a storm for would descend upon the enemy with destructive violence.

Americans Naturally Chivalrous.

"Of course they would do no such thing if he and his men conducted themselves as decent enemies to American citizens, but if they act like savages, Americans' disposition will be to treat them as savages. Americans have dealt with savages before now. An American is no less chivalrous than an Englishman, but in a different way. We think chivalry chiefly consists in being nice to German soldiers, even at the expense of our own vulgar nobodies. It is a relic of times when the aristocrat of any country was more kindly disposed to a foreign aristocrat than to the plebeian of his own race."

"Now in America there are no plebeians, because there are no classes. All American citizens have equal value, and the value of any American citizen is higher than the value of any foreigner, so if the Germans start monkeying with American citizens there will be trouble for the Germans during the war and after the war as well. When the British of Delhi were taken in the Indian mutiny they were not kowtowed to. They were just carefully shot through the head by a simple British Major, they being only black men who had committed atrocities. They were unknown to London society. Americans would be quite equal to doing the same thing to the Princes of Potsdam if their blood were raised by atrocities committed against American citizens, for an American is no respecter of persons."

BELGIUM INTERESTS HOOVER.

Food Chief Studies Food Problem of Stricken Nation.

PARIS, Aug. 3.—The principal object of the visit to Paris of Herbert Hoover, the American Food Administrator, is to study the food situation in Belgium. He has decided not to speak publicly on the Entente Allied food situation.

Mr. Hoover, according to his friends, fears that too much unnecessary publicity was given to the statements which he made while in London on the food situation, and he believes that the effect of too great optimism might be to weaken the resolve of the people to economize on food.

EXPLOSION KILLS 100 GERMANS.

Blowing Up of Train Laid to Defective Munitions.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 3.—A number of German powder stores have recently blown up, owing to the defective quality of the explosives, according to the Reko Beige. In one explosion at Mons fifty Germans were killed and 100 were killed when a munition train blew up.

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Continued from First Page.

percentage, however, will not hold good to the older men who are now to be registered by reason of the larger proportion of men with dependents as the ages advance and also an increase in physical defects.

The War Department's programme is to mobilize the full fighting strength of the nation and then use it to whatever extent it proves necessary to defeat the enemy.

In other words Secretary Baker does not propose to provide for such increase of military strength as may be necessary for the next year or so with the proviso that more men power can be called upon later if necessary. He proposes to bring out the maximum man power at once and have all his plans rearranged for getting the men trained and equipped with the least possible delay.

The labor situation, it is admitted, will be affected by the new draft age limits for the work or fight rule will apply hereafter to men from 18 to 45. Men within these age limits who are not engaged in useful or essential occupations will find it necessary to seek work contributing to the welfare of the nation.

In other words, the design of the plan is to bring the services of all men within these limits under the direction of the Government, to be disposed of as it deemed necessary to win the war. A greater mobilization of man power no nation has ever before attempted.

At his weekly conference with the Senate Military Affairs Committee today Gen. March, Chief of Staff, informed the members that there was no immediate prospect of an extension of the man power of the country at the rate the men were being called into service.

500 ARRESTS FOLLOW EICHORN'S MURDER

More Revolts of Peasants Are Reported in the Ukraine

LONDON, Aug. 3.—An Exchange Telegraph despatch from Zurich today says:

Telegrams from Cracow state that after the assassination of Field Marshal von Eichhorn in Kiev more than 500 persons were arrested, including ex-Premier Winnichinski, Secretary of the Ukrainian People's Republic, and other national-democratic party. Martial law has been proclaimed throughout the province of Kiev.

"German reinforcements are continually arriving at Warsaw."

"Ten German soldiers have been found murdered in various parts of Kiev and revolts among the Ukrainian peasants continue to be reported."

"The Germans have discovered a plot to overthrow Gen. Skoropadski, the Ukrainian Hetman, and make Archduke William, son of the Austrian Archduke Charles Stephen, king or hetman of the Ukraine."

In a telegram thanking General Skoropadski for his expression of the sympathy of the Ukrainian people and Government over the assassination of Field Marshal von Eichhorn, Emperor William has telegraphed as follows, according to Berlin advices:

"An execrable crime was committed by cowardly assassins against my Field Marshal. The unscrupulousness of our enemies, who are at the same time enemies of peace and order in Ukraine, does not shrink from wicked means to reach their ends. I hope the assassins and their supporters will meet condign punishment."

A state of siege has been declared throughout Ukraine, according to a Kiev telegram to the Wiener Gazette. The railway traffic will probably be placed under military administration.

CHILE FEARS LOSS OF SHIP.

Armed by Report of U. S. Plan to Take Steamship.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Aug. 3.—The reported intention of the United States Shipping Board to take over the steamship Santa Lucia of the United States and Pacific Line, which together with the steamer Santa Ana, has brought the west coast of America into so much closer touch with Chile, is causing considerable comment in the press.

The establishment of this line brought forth widespread manifestations of gratitude to the American authorities at the time, and now it is pointed out that if the Santa Lucia is taken from the service great harm will be worked to the commercial relations that at present are being fostered by it. Such action by the United States would be deeply regretted, the newspapers declare, and the hope is expressed that it will not be taken.

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